



Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement Western Cape Provincial Parliament IPalamente yePhondo leNtshona Koloni

WCPP11/1/7

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICE OVERSIGHT, COMMUNITY SAFETY, AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT

(Police Oversight Portfolio)

Tuesday, 18 February 2025 (09h00), Committee Room 2

(Briefing by POCS on the PNP Report)

Democratic Alliance

Walters, TCR (Chairperson)

Booyesen, M

Van Minnen, BM

Wessels, D

African National Congress

Ngqentsu, B

Economic Freedom Fighters

Cassiem, A

Patriotic Alliance

Stephens, DR

Apology

Member WF Kaizer-Philander and Minister AJD Marais submitted apologies.

Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety:

Arendse, H

Dissel, A

Hanekom T

Marshall, H

Sauls, H

Simelane, B

Tully, V

1. Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed all present. The purpose of the meeting was for the Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety to brief the Committee on the Policing Needs and Priorities Report for 2024/25. Additionally, the Committee also expected an update from its administration on the progress of the Western Cape Public Library Bill, as well as the draft committee programme.

2. Presentation by the Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety

Mr H Arendse, the Acting Head of Department, led the presentation. He was assisted by Ms A Dissel, Director for Policy and Research.

- 2.1. The Department's PNP Report focused more on Municipal Policing, Municipal Law Enforcement, and Municipal Traffic Services. This approach differed from previous PNPs.
- 2.2. The Department used the NVivo software program to analyse the qualitative research conducted that influenced the PNP Report. This software was used to identify themes in the qualitative data and incorporated the quantitative data.
- 2.3. The limitations of the study included some municipalities not being fully cooperative to respond to questions of clarity of the responses to the Department's questionnaires, some municipalities were also unable to extract their respective budget allocations for law enforcement and traffic services, from the main budget.
- 2.4. The Department reported key themes across municipal districts, including the staffing for policing, law enforcement and traffic services, the vehicle fleet capacities, technological resources, and other equipment.
- 2.5. The Department reported that integration and collaboration by stakeholders has led to improved policing and traffic management.
- 2.6. The Department elaborated on the challenges that municipalities face. These challenges include budgetary constraints for policing, law enforcement and traffic services, insufficient staffing, a dearth of infrastructure and resources (ranging from basic tools like pepper spray to vehicles), a lack of technology and specialised units, and illegal taxi operations and disorderly taxi drive behaviour.
- 2.7. The Department used a three-phase approach to request information from municipalities. After the third phase, that focused on municipal traffic services, Beaufort West, Cederberg, Matzikama and Kannaland municipalities that did not respond to the Department' request for input
- 2.8. The Institute of Municipal Public Safety, along with the South African Local Government Association and other stakeholders are looking to standardise the quality of the public safety across municipal governments.
- 2.9. The scope of the PNP Report did not allow for an impact assessment of technological resources.
- 2.10. Most of the rural municipalities do not have a 24/7 law enforcement capacity.

3. Recommendations

The Committee recommends that the Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety:

- 3.1. Includes the cluster data of the South African Police Service, to provide a fuller account and analysis of the policing needs beyond the municipal related data. The Department should also include the relevant data on provincial traffic.
- 3.2. Include budgetary data in respect of the expenditure for and allocation of resources
- 3.3. Include the reference to the impact and resourcing of Community Police Forums and Neighbourhood Watches
- 3.4. Through its stakeholder engagement for the Policing Needs and Priorities, liaises with the South African Local Government Association and the Institute for Municipal Public Safety, to consider

a comprehensive programme on updating by laws fit for purpose, as means towards standardisation.

- 3.5. To conduct an impact assessment of the technologies referred to the Policing Needs and Priorities Report used to combat crime.

4. Request for information

The Committee requests that the Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety submits: -

- 4.1. The number of drug houses that have been shut down for the 2024/25 financial year.
- 4.2. The Department's protocol and timelines when informed of known drug houses.
- 4.3. A breakdown of the funds transferred from the Department of Health and the Department of Education to the Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety. The breakdown should include how the Department allocated and spent the transferred funds.
- 4.4. A copy or breakdown of the Safer City Cooperation Agreement signed with the South African Police Service and other policing structures, to combat crime.

5. Update on the Western Cape Public Library Services Bill

The Western Cape Provincial Parliament's Committee Support Services provided an update on the Bill. At the time of reporting, the Bill was published in the Provincial Gazette, 21 days. The Committee was advised to confirm its public participation process after being briefed by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport.

6. Committee Programme

The Committee updated its draft committee programme.

The meeting adjourned at 11h56.



MR TCR WALTERS, MPP

CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICE OVERSIGHT, COMMUNITY SAFETY, CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT

